

Appl. No. 10/613,343
Amendment to Office Action of 05.19.2005

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims shall replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the subject application.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Original) A device for securing a bicycle wheel to a bicycle, the device comprising:
 - a first arm section with proximal and distal ends;
 - a first dropout attached to the distal end of the first arm section, the first dropout including a first slot, the first slot adapted to receive an end of an axle of the bicycle wheel therein;
 - a second arm section with proximal and distal ends, the distal end of the second arm section being spaced from the distal end of the first arm section;
 - a second dropout attached to the distal end of the second arm section, the second dropout including a second slot, the second slot adapted to receive another end of the axle of the bicycle wheel therein, the first and second slots being substantially aligned with each other;
 - an attachment section, the attachment section being (i) coupled with the proximal ends of the first and second arms, and (ii) adapted to couple with a seatpost of a bicycle without the use of a clamping mechanism.
2. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the attachment section comprises a curved wireform, the curved wireform being adapted to at least partially wrap around a the bicycle seatpost.
3. (Original) The device of claim 2, wherein the curved wireform comprises a solid rod.
4. (Original) The device of claim 3, wherein the solid rod is comprised of steel.
5. (Original) The device of claim 3, wherein the wireform is comprised of aluminum.

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6. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the attachment section comprises first and second U-shaped portions, the first and second U-shaped portions (i) being spaced from each other and (ii) forming first and second openings respectively, the first opening being aligned with the second opening, the first opening facing in a first direction and the second opening facing in a second direction, the second direction being opposite the first direction.

7. (Original) The device of claim 6, wherein the first direction is generally towards the first and second dropouts.

8. (Original) An assembly including the device of claim 1 and a strap, the strap being adapted to wrap around a portion of the bicycle and the bicycle wheel.

9. (Original) The device of claim 2, wherein the wireform comprises a tubular shaft.

10. (Currently Amended) A device for securing a bicycle wheel to a seatpost of a bicycle, the device comprising:

an attachment section adapted to couple to the seatpost wherein the attachment section does not comprise a clamp;

a first arm section with proximal and distal ends, the first arm section having a length greater than the radius of the bicycle wheel and being coupled with the attachment section;

a first dropout attached to the distal end of the first arm section, the first dropout including a first slot, the first slot adapted to receive an end of an axle of the bicycle wheel therein;

a second arm section with proximal and distal ends, the second arm section having a length greater than the radius of the bicycle wheel and being coupled with the attachment section, the distal end of the second arm section being spaced from the distal end of the first arm section; and

a second dropout attached to the distal end of the second arm section, the second dropout including a second slot, the second slot adapted to receive another end of the axle of the bicycle wheel therein, the first and second slots being substantially aligned with each other.

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11. (Unchanged) The device of claim 10, wherein the attachment section includes first and second generally U-shaped portions, the U-shaped portions being spaced from each other and forming respective first and second openings, the first and second openings being adapted to fit around a shaft of the seatpost.
12. (Unchanged) The device of claim 11, wherein the U-shaped portions comprise a wireform.
13. (Unchanged) The device of claim 11, wherein the U-shaped portions are at least partially covered by a protective covering.
14. (Unchanged) The device of claim 13, wherein the protective covering comprises a polymeric material.
15. (Unchanged) The device of claim 11, further comprising a strap, the strap being attached to the attachment section proximate one of the first and second U-shaped portions, the strap being adapted to further secure the device to the seatpost.
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Currently Amended) A device for securing a front bicycle wheel of a bicycle to the a bicycle when the bicycle is attached to a vehicle mounted bicycle rack for transport, the device comprising:
- a seatpost attachment mechanism adapted to couple with a shaft of a seatpost, the attachment mechanism not including a clamping mechanism; and
 - a bicycle wheel attachment mechanism adapted to secure the front bicycle wheel to the device, the seatpost attachment mechanism and the bicycle wheel attachment mechanism being coupled with each other.

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19. (Original) The device of claim 18, wherein the seatpost attachment device comprises first and second generally U-shaped portions, the U-shaped portions being spaced from each other and forming respective first and second openings, the first and second openings being adapted to fit around a shaft of the seatpost.

20. (Original) The device of claim 18, wherein the bicycle wheel attachment mechanism comprises two aligned slots adapted to receive end of an axle of the front bicycle wheel therein.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (New) The device of claim 18, wherein the bicycle wheel attachment mechanism couples to an axle of the front wheel.

30. (New) A device for securing a bicycle wheel to a bicycle, the device comprising:
a first arm section with proximal and distal ends;

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a first dropout attached to the distal end of the first arm section, the first dropout including a first slot, the first slot adapted to receive an end of an axle of the bicycle wheel therein;

a second arm section with proximal and distal ends, the distal end of the second arm section being spaced from the distal end of the first arm section;

a second dropout attached to the distal end of the second arm section, the second dropout including a second slot, the second slot adapted to receive another end of the axle of the bicycle wheel therein, the first and second slots being substantially aligned with each other;

an attachment section, the attachment section being (i) coupled with the proximal ends of the first and second arms, and (ii) adapted to couple with a tube of a bicycle without the use of a clamping mechanism.

31. (New) The device of claim 30, wherein the tube of a bicycle comprises one of a seatpost shaft, a seat tube, a seat stay and an upper bridge of a unified seatstay assembly.

32. (New) The device of claim 30, wherein the attachment section comprises a curved wireform, the curved wireform being adapted to at least partially wrap around the tube.

33. (New) The device of claim 30, wherein the attachment section comprises first and second U-shaped portions, the first and second U-shaped portions (i) being spaced from each other and (ii) forming first and second openings respectively, the first opening being aligned with the second opening, the first opening facing in a first direction and the second opening facing in a second direction, the second direction being opposite the first direction.

34. (New) A combination comprising the device of claim 18, the bicycle including the seatpost, the front wheel and a strap wherein: (i) the front wheel is secured to the bicycle wheel attachment mechanism; (ii) the seatpost attachment mechanism is coupled with the shaft of the seatpost; and (iii) the strap is wrapped around a portion of the bicycle and the bicycle wheel.

35. (New) The combination of claim 34, further comprising a bicycle rack adapted for mounting to an automotive vehicle wherein the bicycle is secured to the bicycle rack.

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36. (New) The combination of claim 35, further comprising an automotive vehicle, wherein the bicycle rack is attached to the automotive vehicle.

37. (New) The combination of claim 36, wherein the bicycle rack is attached to a roof of the automotive vehicle.